

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
TRSE-00 AID-05 PC-01 /062 W
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R 240935Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 747
INFO AMCONGEN BOMBAY
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IN, US
SUBJECT: DELHI PRESS REPORTS PRESIDENT CARTER "WARMLY WELCOMES".
ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERAL ELECTIONS IN INDIA

1. NEW DELHI'S ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PRESS JANUARY 24 PROMINENTLY
FEATURE NEWS REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON THAT PRESIDENT CARTER AT
A DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION JANUARY 22 "WARMLY WELCOMED MRS. GANDHI'S
ANNOUNCEMENT ON GENERAL ELECTIONS AND THE RELAXATION OF THE EMER-
GENCY". PRESS IS INTERPRETING MR. CARTER'S REPORTED REMARKS AS
SIGN OF "HOPEFUL TURN" IN INDO-U.S. RELATIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO SAMACHAR, THE GOVT - OWNED PRESS SERVICE,
INDIAN AMBASSADOR KEWAL SINGH "RECEIVED SPECIAL ATTENTION FROM
MR. CARTER". IN THE RECEPTION LINE AT THE WHITE HOUSE FUNCTION.
SAMACHAR QUOTES MR. CARTER AS SAYING THAT "INDIA IS VERY CLOSE TO
OUR HEARTS" AND THAT ""WE ARE EXTREMELY HAPPY AT THE GOOD NEWS
FROM INDIA". IN APPARENT REFERENCE TO MRS. LILLIAN CARTER'S
PEACE CORPS SERVICE IN INDIA, MR. CARTER ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID,
"AS YOU KNOWN, MY MOTHER WAS OUR AMBASSADOR IN INDIA". MR.

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SINGH IS SAID TO HAVE RESPONDED THAT MISS LILLIAN WAS REMEMBERED
IN INDIA WITH GREAT AFFECTION.

3. SAMACHAR CONTINUES THAT AT THE RECEPTION SEVERAL CABINET
MEMBERS TALKED TO AMBASSADOR SINGH "WITH WARMTH, EXPRESSING THEIR
HAPPINESS" AT MRS. GANDHI'S ACTION. ONE UNIDENTIFIED CABINET
MEMBER IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT "WE HAVE SO MUCH FAITH IN YOUR

PRIME MINISTER AND THE PEOPLE OF INDIA". THE "TIME OF INDIA".
ACCOUNT ADDS THAT "THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, MR. BLUMENTHAL,
WALKED OVER TO MR. SINGH TO CONGRATULATE HIM WARMLY ON THE
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INDIA".

4. SAMACHAR SAYS THAT "INFORMED SOURCES HERE BELIEVE THAT THE
CARTER ADMINISTRATION WILL FOLLOW A FRIENDLIER POLICY TOWARD
INDIA AND MR. CARTER'S REMARKS INDICATE THIS TREND".
M.V. KAMATH, THE "TIMES OF INDIA". CORRESPONDENT, ELABORATED
ON THIS THEME IN HIS REPORT, STATING THAT THE ATTENTION INDIAN
OFFICIALS ARE RECEIVING AT THE "HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVT" CAN ONLY
BE TAKEN TO MEAN THAT A "SEA-CHANGE IS COMING OVER INDO-AMERICAN
RELATIONS". KAMATH ADDS THAT IT NOW SEEMS CLEAR THAT "EVERY
MOVE ON THE PART OF INDIA OF A POSITIVE NATURE WILL BE FULLY
AND HEARTILY RECIPROCATED". IN THE TOP ECHELONS OF THE CARTER
ADMINISTRATION, KAMATH WROTE, THERE SEEMS TO BE A BELIEF THAT
"INDIA HAS BEEN GIVEN A BUM DEAL BY THE PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION
AND THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO MAKE AMENDS FOR IT".
CHNEIDER

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Sent Date: 24-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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